

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 DHA-02 AID-05

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P 241325Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MAPUTO 0300

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, CU

SUBJECT: FIDEL CASTRO'S MOZAMBIQUE VISIT

REF: MAPUTO 295 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: CASTRO AND DELEGATION DEPARTED MARCH 23 FOR ANGOLA. THERE WERE NO SURPRISES IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE OR CONCLUDING SPEECHES OF CASTRO OR MACHEL. U.S. POLICIES RE CUBA, PUERTO RICO AND PANAMA WERE HARSHLY CONDEMNED IN COMMUNIQUE. CASTRO MADE NO PUBLIC PLEDGES OF ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE. ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT CASTRO AND MACHEL GOT ALONG WELL. END SUMMARY.

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2. CASTRO'S CONCLUDING SPEECHES, AS REPORTED IN PRESS, CONTAINED WARM PRAISE FOR MACHEL AND THE MOZAMBIQUE REVOLUTION, BRIEF ALLUSIONS TO THE CUBAN REVOLUTION, ATTACKS ON "YANKEE IMPERIALISM", AND A BIT OF LECTURING ON THE NEED FOR DISCIPLINE AND A VANGUARD PARTY. CASTRO WAS VAGUE ON ANY CUBAN ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE. HE NOTED THAT MACHEL HAD TOLD HIM OF THE SERIOUS

LACK OF TECHNICIANS, TEACHERS, DOCTORS, AND OTHER CADRES, AND ADMITTED THAT WHILE CUBA IS A SMALL COUNTRY IT HAS MORE OF THESE CADRES. CASTRO REPEATEDLY NOTED "YOU (MOZAMBIQUE) ARE NOT ALONE," AND THAT CUBA WAS INTERESTED IN "DEVELOPING COOPERATION WITH OTHER PEOPLES."

3. MACHEL'S INTRODUCTIONS WERE FULSOME AND WARN AND GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TWO LEADERS HIT IT OFF. ONE INTERESTING STATEMENT BY MACHEL BEARS NOTING: "THESE ARE THE MEN, LIKE US, WHO WENT TO ANGOLA AND DIED THERE ... TO BRING LIBERTY." THIS IS FIRST APPARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SOMETHING WE HAVE LONG SUSPECTED, THAT MOZAMBIQUE SENT COMBAT PERSONNEL TO ANGOLA TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE MPLA. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

4. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS MORE-OR-LESS ROUTING FOR MACHEL AND THE GPRM. BOTH SIDES DESCRIBED TO EACH OTHER THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TASKS FACING THEIR PARTIES (THE EMPHASIS WAS ON PARTIES RATHER THAN GOVERNMENTS.) THE CUBANS EXPRESSED "REPUGNANCE, INDIGNATION, AND RESOLUTE CONDEMNATION" OF THE ATTACKS BY THE RHODESIANS AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE, AND PRAISED THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF THE MOZAMBIKAN PEOPLE UNDER THE HEADERSHIP OF THEIR PARTY, FRELIMO. BOTH SIDES THEN "ANALYSED" THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. JOINTLY THEY

--LAUDED THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE EX-PORTUGUESE AFRICAN COLONIES AS GIVING A NEW VIGOR TO THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT:
---EXPRESSED INDIGNATION OVER THE MURDER OF MARIEN
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NGOUABI BY "REACTIONARIES AND IMPERIALISTS";
---CONDEMNED THE RECENT AGGRESSION PERPETRATED BY IMPERIALISM ON THE BENIN REPUBLIC:
--CONDEMNED THE CONSTANT AGGRESSION BY THE SALISBURY AND PRETORIA REGIMES AGAINST ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA, AND ANGOLA:
---SALUTED THE VICTORIES ACHIEVED BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT OF ZIMBABWE AND REAFFIRMED TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE ARMED STRUGGLE AS THE ONLY MEANS OF LIBERATING ZIMBABWE:
---NOTED THE SUCCESSES GAINED BY NAMIBIAN PEOPLE AGAINST RACIST AND COLONIAL DOMINATION AND REAFFIRMED TOTAL SUPPORT TO SWAPO AS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE:
--EXPRESSED THEIR REPUGNANCE OF APARTHEID, THE TERRORIST REPRESSION PRACTISED BY THE RACIST VORSTER REGIME, AND MANIFESTED TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE ANC WHICH HAS MOBILIZED AND IS LEADING THE MASSES IN THE FINAL ASSAULT AGAINST OPPRESSION, EXPLOITATION AND BANTUSTANIZATION:

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

---REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT TO THE STRUGGLE OF THE
PEOPLE OF WESTERN SAHARA FOR SELF-DETERMINATION AND
LIBERTY;
--DEMAND THE WITHDRAWAL OF IMPERIALIST FORCES FROM
DJIBOUTI AND MAYOTTE.
--ANALYSED THE SITUATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, CON-
DEMNED THE EXISTENCE OF IMPERIALIST BASES IN THIS ZONE
AND REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THIS
AREA INTO A ZONE OF PEACE;
--DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN LATIN AMERICAN NOTING
THE SUCCESS OF THE PEOPLES OF THIS REGION AGAINST IM-
PERIALISM. BOTH PARTIES EXPRESSED THEIR REPUGNANCE OF
THE "BLOODY REGIME OF PINOCHET" IN CHILE, CONDEMNED THE
"OCCUPATION OF THE TERRITORY OF PUERTO RICO BY AMERICAN
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IMPERIALISM, REAFFIRMED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE PUERTO

RICAN PEOPLE, AND EXPRESSED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA IN THEIR STRUGGLE TO RECONQUER THEIR SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CANAL ILLEGALLY AND ABUSIVELY OCCUPIED BY THE USA."

--STATED THAT CUBA IS A VICTIM OF AN ECONOMIC BLOCKADE ON THE PART OF THE USA IN A CLEAR AND INTOLERABLE AFFRONT OF THE RIGHT OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE TO ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND THIS IS AN ATTEMPT AGAINST THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE, AND DEMANDED AN IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF THIS BLOCKAGE;

--CONDEMNED THE OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE AND ARAB ARAB PEOPLES FOR THE RECUPERATION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND RESTORATION OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINE PEOPLE, LED BY ITS VANGUARD, THE PLO: STATED THAT ONLY BY RECOGNIZING THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THESE COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES CAN A LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST BE REACHED:

---CONDEMNED IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR AND REAFFIRMED TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE POPULAR STRUGGLE LED BY FRETELIN;

--SALUTED THE VICTORIES OF THE PEOPLES OF VIETNAM, LAOS, AND KAMPUCHEA WHICH CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE STRUGGLES OF THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND THE WORLD FOR INDEPENDENCE AND LIBERATION:

---MANIFESTED SOLIDARITY WITH THE EFFORTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO PEACEFULLY REUNITE KOREAN TERRITORY AND DEMANDED THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM SOUTH KOREA;

--NOTED THAT THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENTS HAS ASSUMED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE COMMO STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, FOR PEACE AND SECURITY AND REAFFIRMED THEIR FIRM DETERMINATION TO REINFORCE THIS FRONT OF THE STRUGGLE:

--REAFFIRMED SUPPORT TO THE CYPRIOTE PEOPLE FOR THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY:
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--MANIFESTED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE EXPANSION AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, THE STRATEGIC BASE OF OPPRESSED PEOPLES, WHOSE CONQUESTS AND DEEDS INSPIRE THE MASSES IN THEIR STRUGGLES FOR LIBERTY AND INDEPENDENCE.

5. LOCAL PRESS MARCH 24 NOTED THE ARRIVAL OF CASTRO AND PARTY IN LUANDA.
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6. COMMENT: UTSAPPEARS THAT MACHEL AND CASTRO DID IN-

DEED GET ALONG WELL. ONE MILDLY SURPRISING ASPECT WAS THE LACK OF ANY SPECIFIC PUBLIC PLEDGES OF CUBAN ASSISTANCE, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL, TO MOZAMBIQUE. WE ALSO NOTED WITH SOME SURPRISE THE ABSENCE OF DEFENSE MINISTER CHIPANDE OR ANY SENIOR FPLM OFFICIAL IN THE MOZAMBIQUES DELEGATION. THERE WERE NO REAL SURPRISES IN THE SPEECHES OR COMMUNIQUE. CASTRO'S TONE APPEARED TO US A BIT PATRONIZING, BUT MACHEL, WHO EITHER CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY MODELS HIMSELF AFTER CASTRO, DID NOT REACT TO THIS PUBLICALLY. THE REAL IMPACT OF THE VISIT AND THE SUBSTANCE OF THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (REFTEL) AWAITS FURTHER INFORMATION. DE PREE

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